

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

Date: July 2, 2008 Time: 7:00 pm Room: Conference Room # 2

In attendance were:

Michael Fox
Theresa Gogluicci
Mark Pappa
Paul Vessella
Stephen Martocchio
Joe Mazzocchi

Ex – Officio Member:

Nancy Brault, Health Advisor

Visitor:

Tony Boni, Council Liaison

Call to Order by Mark Pappa at 7:10 pm.

Roll call (see above)

Minutes (February 12, 2008) will be e mailed to membership and distributed during the next commission meeting. All members did not have a copy.

No public participation.

Theresa Gogluicci provided an overview of the Earth Day event for the membership to include: the kick off celebration with a tree planting, park clean-up in the down town area, the Expo and lunch in the Newington Teen Center.

The commission members discussed the need for a line item in the Town of Newington budget for the Environmental Quality Commission (donations were accepted for the Earth Day event). Michael Fox made a motion to apply for a line item budget. Theresa Gogluicci seconded the motion. The Commission voted in favor.

Mark Pappa discussed the need to research green building products that can be used by the town, and suggested that these products be discussed with the town manager. Green products would include solar energy and energy saving products that the town can consider if the town hall is remodeled.

Michael Fox discussed the need for renovations in town hall and noted that his wife works as a register of voters there. He thinks that the town hall is a sick building since his wife is on oxygen all day and that for the past ten to fifteen years she has been coughing and wheezing when she works in the building. In addition, the late tax assessor died of cancer as well as others in the building.

Paul Vessella discussed the air quality program in Newington's public schools and thought that a similar program can be used in the town hall. Michael Fox questioned if radon results were on file for the town hall. Nancy Brault would review the health files for information.

Mark Pappa discussed the need for a public awareness campaign to address environmental quality issues in Newington. He suggested that the commission members write press releases for the local newspaper "Newington Life," concerning green products, recycling, etc. In addition, information can be posted on the town's web site and channel 14. The commission members also discussed promoting the CT Clean Energy Fund at community events such as the Newington Extravaganza.

The commission members discussed the need for a formal structure for the Environmental Quality Commission, and to develop by laws. Mark Pappa noted that this issue would be reviewed in upcoming meetings.

A motion was made to appoint Theresa Gogluicci as vice chairperson by Mark Pappa. It was seconded by Joe Mazzocoli. The Commission voted all in favor.

There was considerable discussion by the membership to elect a treasurer/secretary. However, Michael Fox noted that the approval for a treasurer must come from the Newington Town Council. A motion was made by Joe Mazzocoli to appoint Michael Fox as secretary. Paul Vessella seconded the motion. The Commission voted all in favor.

Adjourn 8:15 pm

Respectively Submitted,

Mark Pappa, Chairman Environmental Quality Commission

(Minutes not approved by commission)